



Walhampton

INDEPENDENT PREPARATORY SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS POLICY

Drafted by: Registrar
Committee Approval date:
Next review date: September 2018
ISI Policy Nos.: A1 / E10

Approved by: Education
September 2017

A Legal Requirement and an ISI Reporting Standard

References:

- A. Education Act 2002,
- B. School Standards and Framework Act 1998
- C. SI 2003/1910 (as amended).
- D. ISI Regulatory Checklist Part 6

1. Preamble

Walhampton is a co-educational independent school for pupils from ages 2 to 13. The school has approximately 370 pupils, 30 of whom are full time boarders with a further 30 flexible boarders at any one time.

Deciding on the right school for your child is very important, and we believe that a personal visit is imperative. We host an Open Morning each term, details of which are published on our website and advertised in the local press. We are also very happy to welcome prospective parents and their children at other times. Please contact our Registrar on 01590 613303 or email registrar@walhampton.com to arrange a visit.

2. Entry Procedure

Candidates are asked to spend a trial day with us and undergo a formal assessment. We also request a reference from the candidate's current school where applicable. This process is designed to identify pupils who are likely to benefit from, and make a positive contribution towards the life of the school.

We are looking for well rounded-pupils with a genuine interest in education in the broadest sense of the word, with interests that stretch beyond the confines of the

academic curriculum. There are many extra-curricular activities, all of which are important in developing a well-balanced, confident individual.

3. Equal Treatment

Our aim is to encourage applications from candidates with as diverse a range of backgrounds as possible. This enriches our community and is vital in preparing our pupils for today's world. We are committed to equal treatment for all, regardless of a candidate's gender, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or social background.

Walhampton nevertheless has strong Christian roots and pupils are expected to attend the school's daily and weekly chapel services.

4. Special Needs

We welcome pupils with special educational needs, providing that our Learning Support Unit can offer them the support that they require. Likewise, we welcome pupils with physical disabilities provided that we can make reasonable adjustments to our facilities.

We advise parents of children with special needs or disabilities to discuss their child's requirements with us before he or she proceeds with the trial day so that we can make adequate provision. Parents should provide a copy of an Educational Psychologist's report or a medical report where appropriate.

5. Scholarships and Bursaries

Walhampton offers scholarships for Academics, Sport, Music, Art and Drama.

Means-tested bursaries are offered in order to make it possible for those who meet the school's admission criteria but whose parents are unable to pay full fees to nevertheless benefit from the many opportunities that Walhampton offers.

We encourage any parent who feels that they will struggle to pay full tuition fees to consider applying for a scholarship and bursary. Further details can be found in the school's Awards policy, which is available on the website.

6. Overseas Applicants

Walhampton welcomes international students from all over the world who come to us for an outstanding British boarding experience and a life-changing education. Young people of all nationalities are welcome at Walhampton School and **boarding places** are available from the age of 7. The combination of academic study with a wide range of offerings in sports, arts, and activities ensures that our students are active, engaged and happy.

We welcome overseas pupils but Walhampton does not run a short-term study programme and we expect all our pupils to join the school for at least one academic year.

It is a legal requirement that all pupils living overseas should have a guardian in this country who will act in loco parentis for them:

- in cases of illness or disciplinary matters,
- to whom they may go for half-term exeat and holidays when the pupil is unable to go home,

- who is able to deal with their arrival at or departure from airports as necessary.
- A guardianship form must be completed and signed by both parents and guardians before the pupil joins the school.

Guardians are always welcome at the School and are encouraged to take as much interest in their wards as they feel able.

Visas

Pupils living outside the EU should consult the Home Office UK Border Agency website www.ukvisas.gov.uk to find out whether a student visa is required, and, if so, how to apply for one in your country of residence. It is the responsibility of parents to obtain, and to renew as necessary, the appropriate student visa before arriving at Walhampton. Walhampton School holds a Tier 4 sponsor licence.

International applicants will need to submit the following:

1. School reports from current and previous year
2. English language with questions/short essay (EAL), Mathematics and a General aptitude test
3. Interview via Skype or in person

In order to cope with the academic and social demands, pupils should have a reasonable knowledge of English. Tuition in English as an Additional Language (EAL) will be arranged on request at extra cost.

7. School's Contractual Terms and Conditions

Copies of our standard terms and conditions, and those for Early Years pupils where applicable, will be given to parents as part of the admissions process.

8. Suspension & Exclusion

- a. We believe that when an allegation of severe infringement of the school rules exists against a pupil, it may be in the pupil's best interest to stay away from school whilst the matter is being investigated.
- b. For offences such as consumption of alcohol, smoking, stealing and severe bullying, suspension from school will be the usual sanction and a pupil may be permanently excluded in extremely serious cases.
- c. Persistent infringement of school rules and norms of behaviour may result, after warnings, in permanent exclusion.
- d. The governors may exclude a pupil from school if the fees remain unpaid after due warning being sent to parents. If a child has been excluded from school, he or she may be allowed to return to sit external examination for which he or she has already been entered.

Updated: September 2017

Review: September 2018

